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SLAVE

UNLESS

England

Break Her

CHAINS

Discovering the Grand Designs of
the *French* in *FLANDERS*,
GERMANY, and *ENGLAND*
for several Years past.

The Second Edition.

L O N D O N,

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EUROPE a Slave

Unless

ENGLAND

Break her CHAINS.

W Hat His most Christian Majesty has lately enterprized upon *Valenciennes*, *Cambray*, and *St. Omers*, the best Fortified places of the Spanish *Netherlands*, and the only remaining Bulwarks of those Poor Provinces toward *France*, together with the Progress of his Armes upon the Frontiers of *Germany*, the Confines of *Spain*, in *Sicilie* and in *America*, gives all the rest.

B

rest of *Europe* occasion to be solidly apprehensive of its danger: which if it were, perhaps it might have been more advantagious for this great Monarch not to have done so much.

In truth, by the rapid Conquests which this Victorious Prince has obtain'd in so short a time, of three such important Places, he has apparently demonstrated to all *Europe* the extent of his great and vast designs; and the weakness and low Condition of *Spain* as palpably discovers, that there is all the reason in the World to believe, that if *England* would but awake out of that Lethargie wherein it hath layen for so many years, and put her helping hand to the work, she might be a great means to prevent the misfortunes and Calamities to which all those Estates and Countries that border upon *France* are now exposed.

I was the more apt to flatter my self with a hope of this nature, for

for that although I am not altogether ignorant, how much the French Court has won upon the Court of *England*, yet I was of Opinion that the English, being so invincibly jealous for the preservation of their liberty, finding that his most Christian Majesty had made such an important Conquest, while the Parliament was sitting, would by the Mediation of that Noble Assembly, have made their humble addresses and earnest representations to their Monarch, and not have left till they had besought him to consent what his own honour and the safety of his people required. But by fatal Experience we see, that as to that which all Europe calls a *Parliament*, if the same Anticipations and Connivances continue there with that fatality which we have hitherto observed, that to our great sorrow, we shall be constrain'd to believe what the Emis-

saries of *France* publickly them-selves declare, that two thirds of that Assembly are Caball'd: and manag'd by the Golden *Lewis's* of *France*; in such a manner, that from the same part from whence all Europe hope to behold the Sun of their restoration rise, if there be not a sudden change, which all good men expect for all this from the English Generosity, where they see a formidable power advance it self, in Combination with *France*, for the utter destruction of Christendom.

I know there are some that pretend to great insight, who being either indu'd or surpriz'd with the Opinions and Maxims which the French Emissaries every where insinuate, are of opinion, that for the Imperialists there might be something done so considerable in the Course of this Campaigne, which if it should happen prosperously to succeed, it would follow

follow then that some solid remedy might be apply'd to cure the mischiefs and apprehensions of all the rest of *Europe*. This is that which is discoursed in all the Courts and Countries of the *North*. But not to distaste these men of Contemplation, I must beg leave to be of a contrary judgment, and to hold that all their hopes are ill grounded ; and that for several reasons.

We must confess, there is no improbability but that the Imperial Army might force a way into *France*, which would certainly prove a notable home thrust : but then on the other side we must consider, that the Army which is design'd for such an Expedition must endure all the hardships of a Twenty Leagues March through Countries burnt and wasted, so that such an Army would be very much incommoded for want of all sorts of necessary Provisions both

for Horse and man. Now in regard the Imperialists, being once pass'd beyond *Mayence*, *Coblentz* and *Treves*, have no Magazines, all the Countrey beyond the Line of *Treves* to the very Confines of *France*, except some part of *Luxemburgh*, being under the absolute Power of the Enemy ; this being so, how is it for us to imagin, that the Imperialists should do any things considerable, being to March either through a Country burnt and wasted, or through that part of *Luxemburgh*, which is at present a meer Desart, more especially considering that the *German* Armies are those of all *Europe* that carry along with them the most numerous luggage and pestermenent of women, and unprofitable mouths.

Secondly, though it were true that the Imperialists surmounting all these difficulties, should break in as far as *Lorian*, the Territory of *Metz*,

Metz, or the County of Burgundy, which is all that is to be expected in one Campaigne, what is it that this Imperial Army can do considerable, in a Country of which all the strong holds are in the possession of the Enemy, and all the rest of the Country burnt and laid waste? Now as all these exploits of the Imperialists can tend to no other end, but either to give Battel, or to lay Siege to some considerable Town, it is easie to foresee that if they aime at the first, and that the French are intended to decline it, as they are masters of all the Country behind, and of each side, who shall be able to force them to fight? Or if it comes to that pass that they are forc'd to hazard a Battel, it is most certain that the one or the other will be Victor. Should then the Imperialists get the better, let us examine what they will be in a condition to do, should they obtain

tain a compleat Victory. I believe it will be granted me that the chief Benefit of such a victory will be only the Siege of some good Town, by that means to secure some post for the Conveniency of the Army against the next Campaigne. For to venture far into an Enemies Country without this precaution, I do not believe that the Imperialists either will or ought to do it. For should they hazard such an attempt, they would be constrain'd to leave several strong Garisons behind 'em, which being well stuft with French Cavalry, would never suffer the German Convoys to pass quietly, and perhaps cut off the greatest part of them. But on the other side, suppose the French will avoid fighting, keeping themselves in an actual posture of defence, or though they should be constrain'd to give battel, and lose the day, yet the scatter'd Troops of that, beaten

beaten Army, being spedily re-inforc'd by the adjoyning Garrisons, would be still strong enough, though but in volant parties, to prevent the Imperialists from doing any thing considerable. Here you are to observe that what I have said already is only in reference to the first Case of the March of the Imperialists in an Enemies Countrey, and the gaining a Victory. But as it would be an extraordinary piece of Flattery to determine, that the Imperialists should be infallibly Victors; I believe, that before we leave this first point, it will not be amiss to examin what would probably happen, in case the Armies should joyne, and the French should get the day. Nor do I think it will require a long discourse, to make the reader apprehend the bad consequences of such a loss to the Imperialists. It being notorious, that in regard of the strong places,

which the French possess in *Lorraine*, *Burgundy* and *Alsacia*, after the loss of a Battel, *Germany* would labour under two inevitable mischiefs.

First to see that Army beaten, and consequently utterly ruined and cut off in the pursuit. The second to see the French pass the *Rhine* at *Brisgow*, and there cutting out such troublesome work for *Germany*, which yet she never beheld nor had ever suffered in those parts.

Again if by an attempt no less prosperous than the former, the Emperour and the Empire should make a second tryal, and be so unfortunate as to lose a second Battel, a thing not unlikely, whether this Campaign or the next, considering how the Correspondencies of the French are maintain'd in the Court of *Bavaria*, and other Courts of the Empire, we must look upon all that part of *Germany* which borders

ders upon the *Rhine* for two or three days journey together totally lost without hopes of recovery, and the rather for that a great part of those Countries is all consum'd and wasted, and can never be able to afford Conveniences for winter Quarters, nor to supply the Imperial Armies in their Marches. And this is very near as much as I can think observable in case of the March of an Imperial Army in the Enemies Country, and in case of giving Battel, which is the first point. Now let us come to that of laying a Siege.

As to what has pass'd at the sieges of *Philipsburgh*, and *Maestricht*, with different Enemies, two things are observable. The first, that the French understand very well how to fortifie their strong holds according to all the Rules of Art: And also for the second, they understand as well how to defend their Fortifications, & dispute it Inch by Inch with their

their Enemies, with an admirable conduct, and undaunted Courage. From which reflections it may be naturally concluded, that in case the Imperialists, being enter'd into an Enemies Country, go about to lay any formal Siege ; as without question it must be before some considerable Town, 'tis ten to one but that the season of the Campaigne will be over before they can bring their design to pass. From whence I conclude that this March of the Imperial Army, whatever way they take, can never produce any greater benefit, than the taking of some place in *Lorraine*, the Territory of *Metz*, *Luxemburgh*, or the County of *Burgundy*, and by the gain of that place to disorder those Garisons which the French hold in *Alsatia*, which however is not sufficient to save the Provinces of the Spanish *Netherlands*, which is the precise Platform, by which his most Christian Majesty might with-

without difficulty mount to the Universal Monarchy, if those Provinces were lost ; there being no Power at present in a probable condition to hinder him.

Now if it be true what I have already affirm'd, and what I shall afterwards maintain, that by the Conquest of the united Provinces of the Spanish *Netherlands*, his most Christian Majesty may jump into the Universal Monarchy, that all *Europe* may evidently know the danger of the present Conjunction if there be no remedy from *England*, and other places interested, and that with all the speed imaginable, there are these five things to be attentively considered.

The first is, that his most Christian Majesty being master of all the Posts, Passages, and strong Places of the County of *Burgundy*, it behoves us to consider, that though this Prince should do nothing more during this whole Campaigne but
only

only dispute the Ground with the Imperialists, it is not to be avoided, but that the Campaigne must break up, and the Imperial Army retire without doing any thing considerable for the preservation of the Provinces of the Spanish *Netherlands*: For not to flatter our selves, would we have had the Imperialists have attempted any thing great for the Safety of those Provinces, necessity requir'd that while the Imperialists directed their March undauntedly into the Bowels of *France*, with an Army of fifty thousand men, the Confederate forces, then in the Spanish *Netherlands* should have broken into *Picardy*, or the Territory of *Boloigne*, by such a powerful diversion to have favour'd the grand and Capital Enterprize of the Imperial Army. But by the fatal losf of *Valenciennes*, *Cambray* and *St. Omers*, *France* is so well entrench'd on that side against all the

the Attempts of the Confederate Armes in those parts, that it is absolutely out of their power by reaſon of those Conquests to penetrate on that ſide into the Kingdom of *France*. Now we may eaſily perceive, that *France* having nothing to fear from *Flanders*, will content it ſelf only to leave a ſmall Army in those Quarters adjoyning to the Provinces of the Spanish *Netherlands*, which by the assistance of thoſe ſtrong Garrifons under its Dominion in the ſame Provinces, will be a force ſufficiently competent to amuse all the power of the *Dutch* and *Spaniards* on that ſide during the ſeafon of this Campaigne, and to prevent their doing any thing conſiderable.

In the ſecond place, This being the condition of *Flanders*, and *France* being out of all apprehenſion of danger in reference to its Conquests in the Provinces of the Spanish *Netherlands*, and the Provinces

Vinçes of Picardy, Boloigne and Artois which are guarded and secur'd by the Conquests of Valenciennes, Cambray, and St. Omers, it plainly appears that *France* is at her full liberty, to make head with the main body of its forces in opposition to the enterprizes of the Imperial Armies.

Seeing then that *France* finds her self in this safe condition, I must leave it to all men of sense and judgment, as a solid prognostication of all that can be expected from the attempts of the Imperial Armes for the preservation of the Provinces of the Spanish Netherlands. For suppose that the Imperialists should advance to the Frontiers of *France*, with an Army of fifty thousand men, which is almost all that they can do, *France* will meet them with an equal force, or perhaps with a greater number, with this difference, that whereas the Imperialists, to obtain

the

the advantage of getting to the Frontiers of *France*, shall be forc'd to undergo a thousand difficulties and hardships, in crossing a wasted and desolate Country, the French have nothing to do but by easie Marches in their own Countrey to meet them, Masters of all the Territories behind and on each side, furnish'd and provided with all things necessary, and where they had all the advantages imaginable to attack them as they should see occasion.

Thirdly, that we may not seem to rely in vain upon the endeavours of the Confederate Forces in the said Provinces, we must consider, that by reason of the lopping off so many considerable Members from the body of those Provinces in the Wars of 1667. and since the beginning of this present War, it is absolutely impossible to be able to do any thing considerable against *France* without a force much greater than that of *France*. Fourth-

Fourthly, The *Spaniards* themselves since the beginning of this War, through the misfortune of the Minority of their Prince, being unable to establish Magazines of Victuals, Ammunition and Pro-vender for the Horse, for the subsistence of their own and the Armies of their Allies, and being under the same necessities and disabilities, through the same misfortune during this Campaigne, it is impossible for this only defect, that any considerable Armies should subsist in the said Provinces for so long a time as is requisite, or that the March of the Army should be order'd as the suddenness of emergent occasions requires, to oppose the progress of the Enemy, or to gain any considerable advantage upon him. And this may serve for a real proof of this Truth, that we need no more but observe what has pass'd within these three years in the beginning, progress and end of all the Campaignes

paignes in the said Provinces, including the beginning of this.

Fifthly, although it be true that by the advancement of his most Serene Higness *Don John of Austria* to the Dignity of Captain General, and First Minister of the Spanish-Monarchy, we may certainly expect a great change in the Government of the Monarchy of *Spain*, however 'tis very true that if we consider the most wonderful disorders which have crept into the Ministry of that Monarchy during two successive Reigns, the little time that this Heroick Prince has enjoy'd his Dignity, and the necessity that constrains him in the first place to provide for the affairs of *Sicily* and the Frontiers of *Spain*, make it out to be impossible for him to furnish sufficient succours for the preservation of these Provinces.

Now

Now all that has been already said, being solidly true, which may be reduc'd to three heads, First, That the Imperialists during this Campaign can do nothing considerable for the safety of the *United Spanish Netherlands*. Secondly, That there is no solid Reliance to be had upon the Enterprizes of those Forces which have defended those Provinces for these 3 years. And, Thirdly, That *Don John* is not in a capacity to relieve or remedy these misfortunes ; we must of necessity conclude that his Most *Christian Majesty*, at the end of this Campaigne, or before the beginning of the next, while the Imperialists and Hollanders are in their Winter Quarters, will be in a condition to Randesvouze a new body of an Army out of his Garrisons in the Frontier Provinces, and with this new Army to come and sweep all before him, and make an end of his work, by taking all principal places.

ces that remain unconquered in the Provinces of the *Spanish Netherlands*; by means whereof the rest will easily submit to the Conquerours Yoke; Neither the Loyalty nor the Courage of the poor Inhabitants being able to protect them from this misfortune. And then his Most Christian Majesty will have no more to do but to push forward by Sea and Land his Monarchical Designs, to bring under his Yoke the two thirds of *Europe*.

But because some Critick may perhaps imagine that my Conclusion in the preceding Paragraph is not solidly enough maintain'd to be establish'd and made a positive maxime, after that manner as I have done it, I think it but necessary before I go any farther, that no person may flatter himself to the contrary, to shew palpably and plainly the possibilities for his Most Christian Majesty to execute

Victoriously, by the time by me supposed, what I have advanced for truth. To which purpose I desire the Reader to consider these four things by way of addition.

First, That it is naturally impossible but that the Dutch Army by death, sickness, or desertion must be diminish'd above a third part.

Secondly, That in case his most Christian Majesty should undertake any such conquest at the time afore-mentioned, it is impossible to determine, but by conjecture, which may prove deceitful, upon which place he will first begin to make his attacques; so that, supposing that the Hollanders do lend their Forces to the Spaniards, there will be a necessity that those Forces should be divided into all those places which the Spaniards possess in the United Provinces; from whence it consequently follows, that it will be impossible that by means of this division and allotment

ment of those Forces, they should be capable to defend all the Grand places which the Spaniards yet possess, which being once attacqu'd and taken, all the rest excepting only *Luxemburgh*, will be constrain'd to surrender.

Thirdly, it being granted that the Hollanders do lend their Forces to the Spaniards, and that they are divided and separated into several Garrisons as I have already declared , we may certainly conclude, that if his most Christian Majesty has a design to sit down before the said places, neither the Hollanders, nor the Spaniards having a body of an army in the Field , as being all distributed into Garrisons, for the security of particular places , He is at his full liberty to attaque which, and as many as he pleases at a time without controul , and coming to be master of the Forts , he is master of the Forces likewise : and so the question will be , whether

ther it were not better for them to quit their Towns without so much as a Summons, than to lose their men. For if we do but make a serious Reflexion upon the violent and rapid manner of the French Attacques, it being the humour of the present King not to care how many thousand Mens lives he sacrifices to his impetuous desires of Conquest, it is naturally impossible but that they should take all the places which they attaque, as being out of all expectance of relief. So that all the Places which remain to the Spaniards in the *Low Countries* shall be swept away, before the Imperialists can be in a condition to move; I only except *Luxemburgh* for this year, which upon the next Invasion is to run the same fortune with *Burgundy*, and it may be the next Campaign, as being without Garrisons or Forces for its defence; there being nothing more certain than that the Souldiers

Souldiers in the Conquer'd Garrisons will be prisoners of War to the Victor.

We may add for a fourth, not to flatter our selves that the violence of Seasons, or the maxim of keeping in Winter Quarters gives any stop to the French heat, that it behoves us to consider what time his Most Christian Majesty made his first Irruption into the County of *Burgundy*, and what his Armies have done since the beginning of this War, all in the Winter time, or at the end of Campaignes, when the Enemies Army was never so little retir'd, or before they could be upon their march at the end of Winter. Or if we had forgot all this, the second invasion of *Burgundy*, the conquests of *Montbellian*, *Cambray*, *Valenciennes* and *St. Omers* may refresh our memories. Which in my opinion may suffice to make us sensible that if *England* do not step in before the end of this Campaigne, his most Christian Majesty will be certainly in a condition, at the time

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which I have mention'd, to make a final conquest of all the Spanish Netherlands.

Now his Most Christian Majesty being in such a condition, from what you may believe that he will never neglect such a favourable conjuncture, we are also to take notice, that the said Monarch out of a supreme and capital Interest, cannot dispense with the Execution of his intended enterprizes at the time by me already expressed. For the Imperialists at the end of the Campaigne, taking up their Winter Quarters in *Lorraine* and *Laxemburgh*, his Most Christian Majesty has but one Expedient of Diversion to constrain the Imperial Army of course to quit at the begining of the next Campaigne, all the said Countreys, and to retreat on the other side of the *Rhine*, which his most Christian Majestie will easily compel them to do, if the Spanish Provinces or their Principal strong Holds fall at the said time into his hands. For this

this Conquest being made, his Most Christian Majesty shall not only be in a Condition to keep up an Army of fifty thousand men, upon the Confines of *Lorraine*, the Territory of *Metz*, and the County of *Burgundy*, to oppose the Imperialists, but also with an Army of the same force to seize almost without any opposition upon the Counties of *Juliers* and *Cleves*, and so to get footing beyond the *Rhine* on that side *Westphalia*, to encourage the Princes of his Cabal in those parts, and probably to force the Imperialists, wherever they are at that time, by reason of the Alarms of which they are so apprehensive from the Coast of *Bavaria*, which only expects an opportunity for invading *Tirol*, to keep close together in a body on the other side of the *Rhine*, on purpose to watch the motion of their Enemies.

Now all that has been said above being brought to pass in this manner, to the end we may believe that his Most Christian Majesty will be in

a condition to subdue the third part
of Europe, we are to take notice once
for all, that this same Prince with
only the Forces of his own King-
dom, has been able not only to de-
fend himself from the confederated
Forces of his Enemies, but that to
this very time, all that considerable
strength has not been able to get one
single Farm of the ancient Patrimo-
ny of his Kingdom, while this same
Prince actually takes without any
opposition, from the Principal
Chiefs of the Confederacy, Fortres-
ses, Cities, Towns and whole Pro-
vinces ; and as if it were not suffici-
ent to advance the Progress of his
Victories by Land, in the Province
of the Spanish Netherlands, upon the
Frontiers of Germany, upon the Co-
fines of Catalogne, and in Sicily, to the
end you may not be ignorant how
formidable his power is every-
where, he gives an occasion to all
Europe with amazement to behold
how this same Monarch, within
these two years under the pretense

of the Sicilian War has not obtained only the absolute Dominion of the Mediterranean Sea, upon all the Coasts of *Spain, Italy,* and his own Dominions, but that he has had the courage, and a force equal to his courage, out of the super-abundance of his Naval Power, to send the Count *d'Estrees*, with a Royal Fleet to the *Indies*, which to the shame of the English and Hollanders, makes those Conquests, of which the consequences will not fail to trouble those two Nations hereafter, and to be most cruelly tormented and incommoded in their most Essential and Capital Interests both of Estate and Commerce.

And as if it were not enough in so many different Countreys to make all the Progresses above-mentioned, we are seriously to consider that this same Monarch by his vast Banks of ready money is able not only nobly to support his Armies in all those parts by Sea and Land in so many different and distant Countreys; but

also in his Cabinet by the same means of his vast treasures, and the dexterity and vigilancy of his Ministers, to direct and uphold in a most wonderful manner, the power of the *Swede*, against all the Opposition that has attacqued him, and in the heart of the Empire to controule and manage those Princes, who under the counterfeit and false Title of Neutrality, by the assistance of the ready money of *France*, keep considerable Armies on Foot, which upon the least misfortune that should befall the Empire, would be ready to take hold of the opportunity to the disadvantage of the Empire. By the same interest of his ready money he not only governs the secret Counsels of *Poland*, but so orders his affairs that the publick *Diets* of that Kingdom applaud the suffrages of the same Court in those very points, which according to the Rules of Judicious *Policie*, will certainly ruin by the Consequences all the chief Privileges of that Republick. By the same

same means he governs the Politick
Dyets of the Cantons of Switzer-
land, in such a manner, that though
that Nation, by the Conquest of
Franche Comte, do perceive a curb to
be put in their mouths, which may
be a means to bring them into slave-
ry, nevertheless they still furnish
him, through an insufferable blind-
ness, with the best of their men, on
purpose to assist him to over-run the
rest of *Europe*, as if after all the rest
come to be subdu'd and vanquish'd,
this Republic alone would be able
to resist the power of *France*, when
her victorious Monarch shall ad-
vance four several wayes to attack
it with all his Forces.

But these are not the bounds that
limit the Influence of the French Mo-
ney; it spreads it self yet more won-
derfully. *Italy* is replenish'd with
persons of great wisdom and fore-
sight; and without all contradiction
that Nation of all *Europe* is naturally
the most capable to dive into all the
consequences that may happen upon

the progress of his Most Christian Majesties designs; nevertheless by an Enchantment till now unheard of, the Potentates and Republicks of that part of *Europe*, remain unanimously buried in an unconceivable Lethargy, and this at a time, when they see by the successes of his Most ChristianMajesty in *Sicily*, the flames of a War ready to be kindl'd in their own Countrey, and that too in such a part, as has alwayes prov'd fatal to it, and that from the same part, as also from *Pignerol* & *Monaco* they find the French Armes assured of three infallible Ports that give them free entrance by three different wayes without any Possibility for any Power of Christendom, if the *Empire* and *Spain* be once brought to submit, to prevent their misfortune.

But if the Mercenary humour of the *Swisses*, and the softness of the *Italians*, may seem to furnish those Nations with any excuse, whether good or bad, to shake off the blame from themselves for not having hitherto done

done any part of their Duty, what can *England* say for it self, a Nation formerly of all *Europe* most fierce and jealous of their Liberty ? In regard that at the same time, while his Most Christian Majesty carries *Valenciennes*, *Cambray* and *St. Omers* in the very view of that Nation, she so warlike and so jealous heretofore of the Successes of the *French*, stands pausing and flegmatically making it a Question, whether it may be convenient for her to Arm, and with her ancient courage to cause a Restoration of those places into the hands of their ancient Masters: or whether she shall apply her self to the unprofitable wayes of mediation, where the Frauds and delayes of the *French* are to be every day encountred. This it is that causes us to say, that the *Seine* now triumphs over the maritime Grandeur of *England*, and that *France* by vertue of one of her chief Master-pieces, and some certain golden Sacrifices, has found a means to lull asleep the English *Sampson*, that

having cut off the locks of his hair, she may be able to make her self master of his Honour and his Puissance.

Neither is it here that the politick managements of the Counsels of *France* make a stop: For the ministry of *France* has not only acquir'd almost an universal control in all the Courts of Christendom, from which those of *Vienna* and *Madrid* have not been exempted; but it is also certain, that by his pensions of several Millions, neither the deceas'd Grand *Vifier*, nor the *Cham* of the *Precopite Tartars*, even to the last Peace with *Poland*; did act otherwise than according to the directions and desires of the Most Christian King; of which the last wars and the Peace with *Poland* have furnish'd us with a lamentable but authentic Proof; and is to us a farther Argument that he who succeeds in that charge, concurs in the same Politicks with his Predecessour; and that his Most Christian Majesty is not unmindful of his Addresses to him. And it is

observable, that no sooner has the Muscovite threatned the S^we^de with a War upon *Livonia* side, but the Great Turk has menaced the Muscovite with an Invasion of his Territories with all his Forces.

If then his Most Christian M^ajesty by the sole and only Forces of his own Kingdom, at a time when he is constrain'd to keep in pay above a hundred thousand men, without any Hyperbole, as well in Garrison as in the Field, in the parts adjoyning to the Spanish Provinces, and his neighbouring Conquests, yet for all this makes such irresistible Progresses as well by his Armes as with his money, I leave it to all rational persons to judge, what he will be able to do, after he has finished the Conquest of the *Spanish Netherlands*, for that he will be then not only discharg'd of the most considerable part of his care and Expence, but that he will be also master of a Countrey, that by means of its ordinary Subsidies will be able to furnish with money,

money to pay an Army of fifty thousand men, with all the charges thereto belonging. And that in the same Countreys he shall be supplyed with men, Souldiers and Officers as good as any in *Europe*. That the *Empire*, *Spain*, *Holland*, *Switzerland*, *Italy*, and *England* more especially have reason to tremble at the thoughts that such a thing should come to pass, if they do not rather arm their whole puissance, and undauntedly both in general and particular make it their business to prevent the same. For certainly it is their common Interest, since that if such a Conquest should be effected by the French, the infallible losf of all their Liberties would follow next.

And for the more home urging of this matter, that we may give you to understand the fatal Posture of the affairs of *Europe* at this time, & how advantagious they are to facilitate the designed Conquests of his Most Christian Majesty if once he obtain the entire possession of the Spanish

Netherlands, we are seriously to consider, that as for *Germany*, after such a success of the French Force, his Most Christian Majesty will be in a condition, not only to support his Alliances, as he does in *Swedeland* and *Poland*, so in other parts of the Empire, but also to enable those Alliances to advance their heads without any danger. For by that correspondence which this Monarch keeps with the Ottoman Court, being able to prevent for some years the *Turk* or the Precopite *Tartar* from making any irruption into *Poland*, I leave the world to judge how impossible a thing it will be for his Highness the Elector of *Brandenburg* to defend *Pomerania* and *Prussia*, while his Most Christian Majesty occasions the attaque of his Provinces, should his Most Christian Majesty, as we have already said, attaque his Territories of *Cleves* and *Mark*, with an Army of forty or fifty thousand men, without any hindrance at all to the same Monarch to maintain

maintain and carry on his Conquests in *Lorain*, *Burgundy*, and *Luxemburgh*, either with as numerous or a bigger Army in those parts.

Which happening to be true, it will be an infallible Consequence, upon the Conquest of the Spanish-Netherlands, that the Emperor and the Empire will in all probability be constrain'd to bid adieu for ever to whatever depends upon the Patri-mony of the Emperor from the *Rhine* to the Frontiers of *France*, in the same manner as the same Empire has been already forc'd to do to the three Bishopricks of *Toul*, *Metz* and *Verdun*. For the Dutchies of *Cleves* and *Juliers* being subdu'd all of a sud-den, we may easily foresee that two things will infallibly come to pass. First, that the Imperial Army, or at least so much as relates to the Elec-tor of *Bavaria* and his friends in the Empire, will be forc'd to keep on the other side of the *Rhine*, perhaps in a posture of single defence, while the Princes of *Westphalia*, either compell-ed

led by the necessity of the time, or in pursuance of their own obligations, shall joyn with *France*, as being there-to already well inclin'd and dispos'd.

The second is, that *Holland* being humbled and brought down by the calamities and losses sustain'd in the present war, or the Conquest already made, shall be forc'd to agree to some dishonourable peace ; and that with so much the more reason, in regard that by the loss of the Spanish *Netherlands*, and the Dutchy of *Cleves*, it will be out of all hope of being succour'd from any part, unless it be from *England*, from whence we know that that Republick can promise to themselves but little favour, so long as the French shall have the chiefest Influence in that Court.

Now the Empire being reduc'd to this Extremity, it is most certain that nothing can follow but the total Ruine of the same Empire, if by any peace at the discretion of the Ministry of *France*, the Hollanders

ders are forc'd to satisfie the designs of the Ambitious Monarch of that Nation.

The Empire and *Holland* being thus humbl'd and brought down, we must conclude that *France* will be at liberty to choose for the subject of its Triumphs *Spain*, *Italy* or *England*, at its own pleasure.

As for *Spain*, two things being viewed and consider'd ; the first, its natural depopulations ; the second the want of fortifi'd places in the heart and Bowels of the Kingdom, it is most certain that there is nothing but its scarcity of Provisions and victuals in the very centre of it, that can save it from an Universal Invasion from *France*. But let the scarcity of Victuals be what it will, that can be no obstruction, but that his Most Christian Majesty, notwithstanding those natural defects, entring by the passages of *Fontaraby*, with an Army only of thirty or forty thousand men, and by the passages of *Catalogne* with the same number,

by

by the means of these two Armies, would in two Campagnes be able to make himself master of *Navarr*, *Arragon*, *Catalogne*, and the Kingdom of *Valencia*, and after that having well fortifi'd his Frontiers, may be in a condition to constrain the King of *Spain* to become his Tributary for the Kingdom of *Castile*, and after that to grant him what part he shall desire of his Territories in *Italy*, and the *West Indies*, which is an affair not altogether unworthy the serious reflection of *England*.

As to *Italy* there are four things to be consider'd. First the importance of those Posts which his Most Christian Majesty has already got possession of, in three different parts of the Country, by means whereof he has a free entry into *Italy*, which way soever he pleases.

The second is the natural division of *Italy* into several little states, which are for the most part very inconsiderable, & will be ready to joyn with the

the French Monarch, if they are not already his creatures.

Thirdly that *Italy*, formerly the most generous Nation in the world, by the fatal vicissitude of things is now become the most soft and effeminate. The fourth is, that his Most Christian Majesty is master of the *Italian* Sea. Who soever then considers all these things, will be easily convinc'd, that if *Lewis* the 14th. assail *Italy* with all his forces, that nation will not be in a condition to make any more resistance against him, than it did against *Charles* the Eighth, and that if *Lewis* gets a footing once within it, it will not be so easie to drive him out, as it was *Charles* the Eighth. For both the Genius's, Politicks and forces you have to deal withall are far different, as also the Conjunctions of former opportunities from those at present. Moreover we are to consider that upon an irruption of his Most Christian Majesties forces into

to the most delightful part of Christendom, *Italy* can have nothing to rely upon but the strength of her own native forces; for any succour she can expect, I see none in a case to afford it her but the *Turk*, *Germany* and *Spain* being supposed to be brought so low as not to be in a condition for any such effort. Nor do I think that the *Swisses* dare undertake any such enterprise, or if they should, that their strength would prove any thing considerable. From all which reasons I determinately conclude, that if *France* attaque *Italy*, which 'tis very probable he will do after he has attaqu'd and subdu'd the Empire and *Spain*, *Italy* will be entirely lost, and the Court of *Rome* it self will be glad to draw her self out of the broiles, by conferring the same honours, & granting the same privileges to *Lewis* the 14th. as she did formerly to *Charlemaigne*, and several of his successors, that being one of the principal Articles which she must

must make use of to satisfie the vast ambition and soaring designs of this Monarch.

These great things being thus brought to pass, there will nothing remain to his Most Christian Majesty, but to subdue all his neighbours, and to bring the *Switzers* and the English under his Yoak.

For the first I have said it and will say it again, I cannot tell how the Cantons and Confederate *Swisses* can be in a condition to defend themselves, against all the efforts and assaults of his Most Christian Majesty, they who have not one fortifi'd place in all their Territories, and who are also often divided in respect of their Religion ; and when they shall be assai'l'd on all sides, from *Italy*, *France*, *Burgundy* and *Germany*. Against which attempts should they prove successful, they would be more worthy of honour, than their Ancestors ever were, for all their

their victories formerly obtain'd, against the ancient Dukes of *Austria* and *Burgundy*.

As for *Engl.* I know that Nation is warlike even to the height of valour, I know that Nation abounds with persons of great gravity, judgment and capacity to penetrate into the deepest mysteries of State Politicks. I know moreover that the natural Situation of *Engl.* being a kind of fortification and bulwark, that it seems invincible against all the attempts and designs of her enemies, and that joyning all these circumstances to what she is able further to do, considering the natural antipathy which every true English man naturally preserves in his breast against the French Nation, we may from thence conclude, that his most Christian Majesty will find it a very difficult task to bring that famous Island under his subjection; and that though he should make a conquest of it, yet it will be a labour as difficult to keep it.

it. But on the other side it would be to make a wrong judgment of the Politicks of the French Ministry, to imagine, that if they undertake either the destruction or the Conquest of *England*, they would make use of their own forces, without some plausible pretence, to deprive so great a King, their Allie, of his Dominions. *France* is too cunning and diligent in her Politick Managements, not to make use of more refin'd methods of craft and Intrigue. And it is a certain and real argument, that the French Politicks are already at work for the ruin and destruction of *England*, if by a Heroick and universal arming of the whole Nation, the English do not put themselves into a posture both by Sea and Land to stop the progress of his Most Christian Majesty, and the unwary proceedings of those among them, who joyn and close with the French Monarch to the utter ruin of their Native Country.

I say there is a necessity, to take notice of this piece of Truth, and to dive into the Bottom of two things, the natural designs of the Court of *England*; and secondly, the condition wherein his Most Christian Majesty will be, after a compleated Conquest of the Spanish *Netherlands*, by means of such formal Succours as he shall send into *England*, to bring about the designs of the prevailing party to triumph at length over the unwary cunning of the one, and the weakness of the rest.

As for the real designs of the interested Courtriers at this conjuncture, we may conclude them to be such undoubtedly, and the same with those that engag'd the *English*, at the beginning of the present Wars, to confederate with his Most Christian Majesty, against the Republick of the United Provinces, and by consequence against all the Allies of that Republick.

And

And a most notorious proof of this assertion is this, that without doubt *England* it self did not so well ponder and weigh those truths which I am now going to advance, on purpose to let Christendom apparently understand the inevitable danger into which all Christendom must of necessity fall, by being forc'd to submit to the yoke of *France*, through the Conquest of the Spanish *Netherlands*. Now *England* being sensible of this Truth, and seeing withal that by the continuance of these Successes, his most Christian Majesty will be in a condition to keep up an Army of above 150000 fighting men, for which he will have no employment, if he do not send them against *England*; and yet lying still, and not using any endeavours to hinder the Progress of these Successes; we must of necessity conclude, that *England* acts according to the same principles which engag'd her to confederate at the beginning of the war with *France*, and that her mediation abroad does only tend to do the French some more important kindness, to bring to pass the designs of that Court, than she could do by the assistance of her Arms and a publick Declaration of War, which might be a means to discover, and put a stop to the conduct of self-interest.

And

And it is an irrefragable proof, that the Self-interested, and the *French* Party in *England* are firm in the said Design, for that when the *Muscovite* threatned the *Swede* with an Invasion of *Livonia*, at the same time that, by the Management of *France*, the Great *Turk* also threatned the *Muscovite* with an Irruption into his Dominions, in case he invaded the *Swede*; the *French* Party in *England*, at the same time threatned the Grand *Czar* that if he medled with the *Swede*, they would send a considerable Fleet of men of War into the *Baltick* Sea: which proves not only what I have already declar'd, as to *England*, but also that *France*, the *Turk*, and the *French* Party in *England*, observing the same measures, without being any longer able to conceal them, have form'd such a League, which, together with the Branches of it, that extend themselves into many Parts of *Europe*,

make it evident, what apprehensions *Christendom* ought to have of the Enterprizes of his most Christian Majesty, to which his Confederates are made instrumental, either through Unwariness or Self-interest.

Now it being thus evident that *England* acts as a Co-partner with *France*, some may be nice to examine the general and particular aim of such Proceedings.

I shall say nothing of the publick treaty between *England* and *France*, at the beginning of this War, only that therein we may find two things.

First, That if the *French* and *Popish* Party in *England* do resolve to persist in the observation of the said Treaty, that then, upon the loss of the *Spanish Netherlands*, to the ancient Owners, *England* will be put to a hard choice, either to forgoe her ancient Rights and Priviledges to the Will of that same Self-

Self-interested *Popish* Party, or else, with all their Might, to withstand the united Force of the *French* King, and the *French* and *Popish* Party, in *England*, that shall attempt to constrain them to such a Compliance.

The second is this, That in regard it is impossible that the *English* should willingly submit to such a Subjection, so it will be impossible for them to hinder the *French* from landing, so long as the aforesaid Power prevails; who, before they quit their hold, nay, before they land, will be sure to have some strong Fort or Post assign'd them for their Security, as is usual in such cases.

Which, if it fall out in this manner, who is so blind as not to see, that *England* being reduc'd to these Terms, it follows, that *France*, by the Triumphs of politick management, and by the unimitable Subtlety of it's Ministers, will not on-

ly be in certain Condition, by fomenting the Troubles, to bring about the total Ruine of *England*, in regard that the Fortune of the prevailing Party, and consequently of the Kingdom, will be at his disposal; but also by the means of such a favourable Conjunction, after he has look'd on, while the *English* cut one another's Throats, to come in and master both Parties in the same manner as *Hengest* and *Horsus*, Generals of the *Anglo-Saxons*, being call'd in by *Vortiger* to assist him against the *Romans*, *Picts*, and *Scots*, overcame, not only all the Enemies of *Vortiger*, but he himself and all his Forces. Or, as more lately, the *Turk* o'recome the King of *Fez* in *Africa*, who had call'd him in to his Assistance against *Don Sebastian* King of *Portugal*.

It may be thought perhaps, that I have spok'n too freely; but so it was, that the Son of *Cræsus*, King

of *Lydia*, being born dumb, seeing a Souldier with his Weapon advanced, ready to kill his Father, spoke then, that never spoke before: Who then cannot but speak, that sees his Native Country ready to be set together by the Ears, by a prevailing *French* and Popish Party? For to declare who I am, I am an *English* man, born and bred up in the *Roman Catholick* Faith; but by the Grace and Favour of God, reclaim'd from those Erroneous Opinions and Doctrines, both as to Faith and Politicks, with which my Studies at *Leige* had infatuated me.

Now, as to the opportunity of being an *English* Man, and a *Roman Catholick*, gave me that Advantage to be admitted into several private Conferences held at *Paris* and *London* among those of my own Nation and Religion; and for that I had thereby the means to penetrate to the Bottom, and to discover the Malignity of the present Designs:

It is the particular Knowledge of the present Misfortunes, which, together with my Conscience and my Honour, have caused me to put Pen to Paper, as one that would be accounted faithful to my Country, and a true Christian, to advertise my dear Country, that these Misfortunes which I have presupposed, are so much the more likely to come to pass, considering that the *French* Ministry, having prudently foreseen, that it is impossible for his most Christian Majesty to pretend to the Conquest of the *Spanish* Low Countreys, unless he be secure of *England*, have made it the chiefest Master-piece of their Craft and Cunning to separate the Interest of the *English* Ministry from that of the Kingdom, and make them two distinct things: For the one having made the other believe, that if they would but sacrifice the *Spanish* Netherlands to his most Christian Majesty, that then he would gratifie
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the other with the Conquest of the *Spaniſh Indies*, the Wealth of which places, would put the *French-Engliſh Party* into ſuch a Condition, as never to want, or fear a Parliament. This is the Knot which ties *France* and *England* together; but because the *French Party* in the Court of *England* as wisely foresaw, that it was impossible to form a party in *England* againſt the Priviledges and Interest of the Kingdom: For that very reaſon it was, that they pretended to ſet on Foot the pretence of Religion; and because it was well known, that there was a great Number of *Roman Catholicks* in *England*, and thoſe too, generally very zealous for their Religion, though as generally very ignorant; therefore it was, that his Highneſſ the D. of *York* embrac'd the *Roman Catholick Religion*, and afterwards, to declare himſelf openly for the ſame Party; which he never did do, till he had a full prospect, after

the Successes of the last Campaign, of the weakness of the Confederacy in opposition to *France*, and that the Forces of the latter were sufficient to beat all the rest put together, unless *England* struck in to their Assistance.

Upon this ground it was, that after the Arrival of the Dutches of *Orleans* at *Dover*, so many Courriers were seen to post between *Paris* and *London*; neither the Peace between *England* and *Holland*, nor any thing else that happen'd since or before this War, being able to stop the Career of these Proceedings.

Upon this Confidence it was, that many *French* Priests came into *England* in such Numbers, that besides that every Corner of *London* was full of them; it is most certain, that there is not a City or considerable Town in *England*, *Scotland*, or *Ireland*, where these *Indiscreet Zealots* have not got Footing.

From

From hence it was, that the Court of *Rome*, which was not ignorant of these Proceedings, so much rejoyc'd at the beginning of this War which *France* and *England*, made at the same time against the Commonwealth of the united Provinces; though that Court has had cause sufficient to understand the Nature of the *French* Zeal, by what has happen'd through the Power of the *French* Armies, to one of the Ecclesiastical Electors of the Empire, as in the most part of the Churches of his Capital City.

Upon this ground it was, that the last Parliament was prorogu'd for eighteen Months, which ended not till the overture of this present Sessions, and all to gain time to gain the Members to their Party, wherein we had like to have felt the fatal Consequences of their Success.

Now I say, That this Misfortune is so much the more likely, by how much it appears to be certain, that the

King of *France* is in a Condition, before a year come about, to make a Conquest of the greatest part of the Places and Provinces of the *Spanish Netherlands*, and thereby be enabl'd to subdue all the rest of his Enemies ; and then by means of Sorceries in *England*, to maintain continual Divisions in that Kingdom, and by vertue of those Divisions, to waft over a considerable part of his Forces for the support of his Party, and so at length, to make himself Master of them, and the whole Nation. In which Attempt, it will be the more easie for *France* to succeed, in regard, that *England* may be certainly assur'd, that there are, within the very Center of her Dominions, no less than fifty thousand Papists, whose Consciences are govern'd by *French* Monks and Priests, and consequently, ready to take Arms upon first Opportunity, in pursuance of their Designs, and to joyn with twelve thousand Papists.

pists more, that now serve in the Armies of *France*, which would certainly stick close to the *French* upon their landing in *England*. Now I say this, That this 'tis which *England* may conclude to be certain, with so much the more Credit and Reason to be believ'd, because the Memoirs, Rolls, and Instructions, have not been conceal'd from me ; and all these things maintain'd and carry'd on by the Management of the Ministry and Counsels of *France* : whereby my dear Country may see what is preparing against her, both within and without, for her total Destruction, for which , there is no other Remedy, but by a general Resolution, to lay aside all disputes of Religion, which the indiscreet Zealots of all Sects unwarily set afoot, and to bestir themselves for the effecting of five things. The first, to joyn in a league of Confederacy with the House of *Austria*, and the

the *Hollanders*, and not to separate until there shall be a Peace made to the full Satisfaction of all in general, and every one in particular. Secondly, in case the Parliament that is now in Being, do not act more cordially than they have done, for the Honour and Interest of the Nation by their humble Representations and Addresses, to beseech his Majesty to call another.

Thirdly, to implore the Expulsion of all the *French* Emissaries, of what quality soever, out of all the three Kingdoms, without Exception.

Fourthly, to recall, by an authentick Decree, under pain of Felony, all the *English* and *Scotch* who are now in the *French* Service; for as for the natural *Irish*, it will not be amiss, to let them stay behind, and wast themselves in the Wars: for though they be *Roman Catholicks*, yet are they as fanatical

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in the Faith of that Church, as the weak Sectaries of the Protestant Religion, are in reference to their Tenents, and consequently, dangerous Thorns in a Kingdom.

Fifthly, To set forth a Navy as powerful as the Nation is able to provide, of which, the principal Officers must be such as are no way leaven'd with the self-interest of the *French Popish Faction*; and to furnish this Navy with such a number of men, as may be able to make an Invasion into such a part of *France*, as shall be thought most convenient, worthy the ancient Honour of the Nation; to which purpose, the Heads of the Parties in *France* may be consulted, and never to part with such places as shall be taken by the *English Arms*, till his most Christian Majesty shall be constrain'd to submit to Equity and Justice, and to make such a firm and solid Peace as may establish the Repose of *Christendom*, and restore

store a Calm to *Europe*, and which may secure the *English* Nation from all her present Fears and Alarums. 'Tis by a Conduct of this Nature, that the Kingdom of *England* may be able, generally to prevent the Tempest with which the insatiable Ambition of his most Christian Ma-jesty is preparing to overwhelm it, and which seems to be absolutely inevitable, unless vigorously remedy'd by such means as these.

By a Conduct of this nature, the whole Body of the *Roman Catholicks* in *England*, returning to their Allegiance, and coming to open their Eyes, might at length be brought to see, that it is impossible for a Prince, who has been the occasion of the slaughter of so many millions of Christians within these few years, for the only Satisfaction of his Ambition; who, led by the same ambitious principles, has made slight of all the Solemn Oaths which he took in the Island of *Faisans*, before

before him whom he adores for God, before his Altars, that it is impossible, I say, for them to think that such a Prince would trouble his Conscience what Religion were professed in *England*: only that it would serve him for a plausible pretence, after he had overturn'd all the rest of *Europe*, to make an Inundation upon the Cities and Habitations of my dear Country-men, to burn and massacre, to ravish our Wives and Daughters, and sack and ruin the whole Nation, as he has already done, and still does, in *Lorrain*, *Burgundy*, *Alsatia*, and the *Spanish Netherlands*, though Peopled by *Roman Catholicks*. And indeed these Preventions seem therefore the more necessary, by how much the more true it is what I say. For, that my Brethren may understand me, the Dispute is not here about Religion: that's but the mantle which covers the Design of the Popishly affected Party and.

and their Leaders, to keep off the sitting of Parliaments. For if his most Christian Majesty keep his word with that Party, the *Spanish Indies*, with all their Wealth and Riches, will belong to them, by means whereof, there will be no necessity for the calling a Parliament; but it shall be in the power of that Party, to keep up an Army of Foreigners in *England* so long as they please, and thereby to make themselves the absolute Masters of the Laws and Liberties of the Subject. On the other side, if his most Christian Majesty break his Word with the *Popish-English* Faction, and conquer the *Spanish Indies* for himself, which is most probable, (it being no part of Richilieu's Politicks) which Lewis the 14th tred's in step by step, to take much heed to the observation of Treaties, (as Spain too cruelly experiments at this time) I leave the World to judge what will become of *England*.

land, which lies not above seven Leagues from the Coast of *France*, when the Monarch of that Nation having joyn'd to the rest of his Conquests the *Spanish Indies*, who will then, by means of his vast Wealth and Riches which he draws out of this Island, to famish this Kingdom, and consequently, when he pleases, to make himself Master of it, there being then no Power in Europeable to prevent it.

By this Reflexion it may be seen, that if *Spain* falls, all *Europe* falls, not excepting *England*; and it is yet in the only power of *England* to prevent this; there is a necessity to have recourse to this Remedy, as we should run to quench a Fire that had seiz'd upon *White-hall*; that is to say, there is not a moment to be lost, if *England* intends not to perish in the General Desolation. Religion, Charity, and the General Interest of the Kingdom, demand this Diligence, that my dear

dear Countrey would unanimously agree to give that powerful Assistance to that ancient Allie, and by saving her self heroical, to acquire the Honour of having preserv'd the whole Body of Christendom from that universal Shipwrack, with which the *French Fury* threatens it.

I know that by means of that cold Poison which the Emissaries of *France* insinuate, and sow about in all parts, and which is more especially naturaliz'd and intruded into *England*, as being most proper to calm the tempestuous Jealousies of that Nation; there are some that aver with some Probability, that should *England* be quiet and not assist the Confederates with her Arms, yet that there may be plausible Expedients found out to make an honourable Peace between all the Puissances now at Wars. But my dear Country must know, that this was only a Proposal

posal hatch'd in the Cabinet of the *French Ministry*, to amuse and blind *England*, and with her all *Europe*: and that I may in three words make out this Truth, besides what I have said already, I beseech the Reader to observe, that suppose this very day, by the Mediation of *England*, there should be a Peace sign'd, which I believe very uulikely to be done, for several Reasons too long to be here inserted: We must needs say, that in the natural Condition of Affairs at present, this Peace cannot be concluded, but to the great Advantage of *France*, as also, for the Interest of her Allies; which being true, two things will infallibly happen upon a Conclusion made in that manner: the first, that the Empire, *Spain*, and *Holland*, will retire to their several Homes, weary and harass'd by the Inconveniences of the War; the second, that his most Christian

Majesty, beside the real Honour and Advantages which he shall get by this War, shall be furnish'd with an Army of a hundred thousand men, as brisk Soldiers as any in *Europe*; which for several Reasons of State and War that speak of themselves, he will never disband. Now if the prevailing disaffected Party in *England* persist in their Designs of bringing all things under an Arbitrary Power, I ask any true *Englishman*, whether it be the Interest of *England* by a Peace of the Nature above recited, that *France* should be in a Condition, by the loan of an Army of fifty thousand men, which he can easily spare to his Party in *England*, by an Invasion of that Force, to procure the Ruine of our Country in one year.

Moreover, it behoves us to observe, that in case such a Peace should be made, it would be of no other

other Service to *France*, than to enable him, in less than three years, by the Recruits of his Treasuries and Finances, securing his Intreagues in *England*, in the *North*, and among the Princes of the Empire, while the *Rhine* being without any guard, and it may be the Great Turk entered *Hungary*, to powre himself with a Hundred Thousand Men into the *Spanish* Netherlands, and the Empire, which is no more than to recoil, that he may return with a greater Force, and to take time to consult his Measures, how to war with less Danger, and more Success; which is no more for the Distressed, than to run out of the Frying-pan into the Fire. the Lion is out of his Den, the Hunters are at his Heels; and there is no more to be done, than to spread the *English* Toils to the Sea Coast-ward, and there to post the Hunts-men. We owe this Charitable Assistance to our Most Ancient Fellow-Citizens, and the

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natural Subjects of *England*. A fair Opportunity offers it self gloriously to reunite to the Crown of our Monarch, those Flowers that ought to be inseparable from it. Those unfortunate People, oppressed by the Power of the *French* Tyranny, stretch forth their Arms to us; let us not abandon them any longer to the Fury of that despotick Power, as being the only means to restore both our own, and the Peace of the Empire, so necessary to put it into a Condition, to be able to resist the Violence of the Common Enemy of the Christian Faith. I say, this is the only means, to the end, that my dear Country, abus'd and intoxicated with *French* Poyson, may not be so blinded, as to run blindly into the Snares of those Propositions for Peace, which without the Remedy already propos'd, can prove no other than an infallible Expedient to enslave all *Europe*.

I beg the Reader's Pardon if, transported with that Zeal, with which my Heart is enflam'd for the Interest of my Dear Country, I have enlarged my self upon this point of the Condition and Interest of *England*: I could not either in Honour or Conscience, refrain from making a Discovery of a mysterious Combination, that goes about to tarnish the Honour of *England*, should this Misfortune proceed any farther. I declare that my Animosity extends it self no farther, than against those Evil Counsellors, who being corrupted with the Gold of *France*, have betrayed that Fidelity which they owed both to their Country and their Prince. Moreover, I am an *English* man, that is to say, born with my Native Liberty, to declare my Opinion upon so nice a point, as the Preservation of Law and Liberty, ought to be of every true born *English* Man: For that in Truth, we have as much Right to

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maintain that Birth-Right of ours, as our Kings have to maintain the Rights and Priviledges of their Thrones and Scepters.

But, while I am enlarging upon this Point, some Person, either out of Ignorance or Corruption , may perhaps take upon him to gloss up- on this formidable Power, which I have attributed to *France*, to the end that my dear Country, and all other Princes and People , whose Interest it is to abate the Power of *France*, may be the better instru- cted to make a solid and right Judg- ment of it, both in general and par- ticular, of the formidable Force of *France*, I desire the Reader to make a true and sincere Parallel be- tween the Reigns of *Charles* the Fifth, and *Francis* the First, and the Reigns of *Lewis* the Fourteenth , and *Charles* the Second of *Spain*; for by that only *Examen*, you will find that I have spoken but very sparingly and modestly of the vast Power

Power of *France*, which I shall endeavour to make appear by a succinct Examination of this Parallel.

Charles the Fifth, under the Titles of Emperour, King of *Spain*, King of *Naples*, *Sicily*, and *Sardigna*, Duke of *Milan*, and chief of the Houses of *Burgundy* and *Austria*, united in his own Person, the immensity of a vast Puissance, which, after some Victory obtain'd against his Enemies, gave him the advantage, to dispose of an absolute Power, all the Forces of *Germany*, the Seventeen Provinces of the *Low-Countryes*, *Italy* and *Spain*, who by his Orders alone, march'd undauntedly under his Banners, to execute the Commands of this Monarch, as, at present, those of *France* obey the Orders of *Lewis the Fourteenth*.

Charles the Fifth was undoubtedly the greatest Captain, and the greatest Soldier that Christendom had produced for several Ages.

Charles the Fifth had under him the most Famous Persons, both for Military and Civil Affairs, which either the Empire, or the Monarchy of Spain ever had.

Germany, Italy, the Provinces of the Low Countries, and Spain, were full of great Armies, vigorous and well-disciplin'd, and the Ocean and Mediterranean Seas saw nothing more noble nor magnificent than the Fleets of that Monarch.

Moreover, this Prince was one that weigh'd, digested, and resolv'd the most difficult and important Affairs, that were handled either in his Military or Civil Councils, and like a second *Cæsar*, confronting in Person all sorts of Perils and Dangers, encourag'd by his presence in all sorts of places, the Valour of his Captains and Souldiers, in all his most important Expeditions.

Notwithstanding, this great Emperour, with all the Territories, Forces, and Advantages that he had, find-

finding himself necessitated to declare a War against *Francis the First of France*, who, in all, had not above thirty millions of Annual Income; and although he had withdrawn from the Service of *France* the Duke of *Bourbon*, who carried the same sway in that Countrey, which the Prince of *Conde* may be said to do now, had nevertheless, such an Opinion of the Force of *France*, that he would not engage himself in that War, till he had first made a League with *Henry the 8th*, the Pope, and other the most considerable Princes of *Europe*.

And yet, notwithstanding all his recaution and Wariness, Experience tells us, that *Francis the First* was in a Condition, not only to defend himself against all the Violence of that League, but that also, had not been for that same accident, which was but an accident, his being taken Pris'ner at the battel of *Pavia*, *Francis the First*

had found the Emperour work enough, and given him his hands full, seeing, that after he was set at liberty, he was so powerful as to constrain the Emperour to grant him several mitigations in reference to the Treaty of Peace which he had sign'd during his Imprisonment, and that he left his Kingdom in that condition which it has invincibly maintain'd and preserv'd, notwithstanding all its Civil Wars, against the Puissance both of the *Spaniſh* Monarchy and the Empire.

Now to make a just and exact parallel between those, and the Conjunctions of these Times, we must observe, that *Francis* the First, as we have already declar'd, had no above thirty Millions of Annual Income, and that *Lewis* the 14th, who now Reigns, at this hour that write, has infallibly above an hundred and fifty Millions within the only circuit of his Kingdom.

That *Francis* the First durst not undertake any thing of high Concern, but by the Consent of his Estates General and his Parlements, and that *Lewis* the Fourteenth reigns despotically, with an absolute Power over all his Subjects.

That *Francis* the First had a *Charles* the Fifth to grapple with, comprehends all the rest, and that *Lewis* the Fourteenth has onely a *Charles* the Second, and a *Ferdinand* to deal with: the one but sixteen years of Age, the other, a Prince, without doubt, endued with all the Heroick Virtues hereditary to those of his most Illustrious House, but of a Disposition placid and pacifick, and who has no other end in opposing the Enterprizes of *Lewis* the Fourteenth, by Force of Arms, but out of an absolute necessity to prevent the total Ruine of the Empire and his whole Family.

Charles the Fifth, as he was only King of *Spain*, and the Territories annex'd thereto, kept always on Foot, upon the Frontiers of *Spain*, in *Italy*, and the *Low-Countries*, great Armies of six and twenty thousand men a piece: Whereas *Charles* the Second, having suffer'd great Losses of his Dominions in every Quarter, has not now at this time above thirty thousand effective in all, altho *Lewis* the Fourteenth attacques him in all his Dominions with Forces more considerable than ever *Charles* the Fifth made use of against *France*.

Charles the Fifth had always ready in his Ports, and upon the Coasts of the *Low-Countries*, a Navy of fifty men of War, which, having a Correspondence with his Spanish Fleet on the main Ocean, gave Laws to *France* so absolutely on that side, that we do not find in any History, that ever *France* durst make Head by Sea against that.

that great and famous Emperour.
And at this time I do not know
that *Spain* is able to set to Sea six
men of War on that side; where
France is now so strong, that some
Months since, out of the abundance
of their number, they had both the
Courage and the Force to send a
Fleet to the *West-Indies*, which made
there considerable Conquests.

Charles the Fifth, by reason of
his Naval Strength in the *Mediterranean* Sea, and through the con-
venience of his Ports upon the Coast
of *Spain*, *Italy*, and *Africa*, kept, as
it were block'd up, in the Ports of
Thonton and *Marseilles*, all the Na-
val Force of *France*: Whereas, the
Naval Force of *France* being so
vastly augmented in those Parts,
has so strangely spread it self, that,
being absolutely Masters of those
Seas, within these two years, the
Spaniards dare no longer appear,
but with the Convoyes of some one
of their Allies. *Charles* the Second
has

has been no way able to prevent his total Ruine, but by Leagues and Confederacies: *Lewis* the fourteenth sustains himself merely by the force of his Arms. *Charles* the Second wants both Men and Money, and *Lewis* the Fourteenth abounds in both.

Charles the Fifth was sole Master of the seventeen Provinces, and *Lewis* the fourteenth has invaded the chief places of the ten that belong'd to the Spaniards after the Separation of the ten that form'd the Common-wealth of Holland, all which he has taken from *Charles* the second, together with the County of Burgundy entirely.

In a word, I cannot speak it too often, the Spanish Monarchy is tumbling, & with that, all the rest of Europe, if Europe, but more chiefly England, do not counterpoise the formidable Force of France, to prevent her being invaded, and forc'd to submit to the same Yoak, which he has

has impos'd upon his own Subjects.

This is that which I have to say upon this Parallel, from which, by the natural Deductions and Consequences that may be drawn, it plainly appears, that I may come to my Conclusion, that by the Loss of *Valenciennes, Cambray, and St. Omers,* in three weeks time, his most Christian Majesty is in a fair way, if there be no stop put to his Successes, to triumph over the rest of *Europe.*

From this Argument it is that I conclude, that all the Princes and People of *Europe* who love their own Preservation, their Honour and their Liberty, ought to take the Loss of those three places for a signal and universal Alarum given to all *Europe*, to run to their Arms, and marshal themselves with all diligence under the Banners of Justice and Equity; to the end, that the Princes who command this gen-

rous party, may be enabl'd, for the universal good of *Christendom*, to vanquish those cruel Legions that so victoriously march under the Ensigns of Injustice and Cruelty, and puff up with their Conquests, so insolently advance to the general Destruction of all *Europe*.

It is this Alarum that gives warning to *Italy* to put her self into a posture by vertue of a unanimous League between all her Potentates and Republicks, as also by the Efforts of her Arms, as well by Sea as Land, to drive back all the Forces of *France*, not only from the Coasts and Island of *Sicily*, but to expel them, if possible, out of all *Italy*; and this at a time while the *Roman* Eagles hold the chief Director of the *French* Arms in play. Whereas, if *Italy* neglect so fair an opportunity to prevent the Yoak that threatens them, if the Empire once fall, she can never be able to repair so great a Loss, and then she can

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expect nothing but the Misfortunes which are inseparable from Conquests, and of which the Desolations of *Alsacia* are a dreadful Prospect to lay in tablature before their Eyes.

Tis this Alarum that ought to excite the *Swisses*, with all their Allies and Confederates, to lay hold upon this present and only Conjunction, and by an authentick and general Decree of all the whole Nation, to recall all their Forces, out of the Service of the *French*, and with the same Forces, and others of their Confederates and Allies joyn'd with them, tho' it were at their own Expence, which *Spain* would doubtless never allow, to go and wrest from the *French* the Garrisons of *Burgundy*, and clear that County of such bad Neighbours, as being the only *Bulwark* of their Liberty in the hands of their Majors, if they do not intend to lose the only

Oppor-

Opportunity of delivering themselves from that Slavery to which the Pride and Prosperity of *France* designs them.

Tis this Alarum that puts *England* in mind of the near Fall of her Honour, and the approaching Loss of her Liberty, if by a noble Attempt worthy of the Valour of the Nation she do not include her self in the present League of Confederacy; and by Acts worthy the *English* Generosity, she do not endeavour to assume to her self the Glory of having sav'd all *Europe* in saving her self.

This Alarum tells the Conquering Princes of one part of the Territories of *Swedenland*, in the Verge of the Empire, that those Territories are sufficiently considerable to reward their Heroick Endeavours, for the Preservation of themselves, though *Spain* should be utterly unable to gratifie them one Farthing, though he can never without doubt be

be brought so low, if the Spanish
Netherlands be but preserved.

This Alarum it is that resounds
to all the Princes of the Empire,
both in general and in particular,
as well those who have hitherto
won so much Honour out of Zeal
to their Duty, as those who have
suffer'd themselves hitherto to be
abus'd, either by the Artifices of
France, or the Corruption of their
own Servants, that he who directly
attacques the Head, directly at-
tacques the Members, and that he
who preserves no Respect for the
Head, has none for those Princes,
that as Members depend upon the
Head. The Fortune of the Dutch-
ess of *Lorrain* and *Bar*, with
the Fortress of *Pignerol*, may give
them sensibly to understand, that
neither the respect of Blood, Alli-
ances or Treaties, are of that Re-
straint; but that the Maxims of
the *French* Politicks, will sacrifice
them all to their Ambition.

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The demolishing of the Fortress of Orange, being a sufficient Argument, that there is nothing but the bare honourary Title of Duke and Peer, that is to be tolerated in France.

This same Alarum may also reach the ears of his Holiness, and let him know, that if the Emissaries of France do flatter him, that the Designs of that Monarch, are only to extend the Bounds of the Roman Catholick Faith ; they are only Cheats and Deceivers : For it is apparent, that the Ambition of France aspires at nothing more than to pull down Imperial Crowns and Princes, purely Roman Catholick. The last peace of Poland, with the Protections which France gives to the Protestants in Hungary, together with the Breaches of the same Ministry with Spain, sufficiently testify, doth but make a Sport at Worship of the Roman Catholick Faith : It being certain to them, that penetrate

trate into Affairs, that under the name of the *Jansenists* Party in *France*, there is with much Circum-spection preserv'd and cherish'd a sort of Venom more dangerous to the Pontifical Chair, than whatever *Luther* or *Calvin* instituted in *Germany*: For they were declared, and open Enemies; these keep themselves conceal'd, and close under the Title of Zealous Catholicks, notwithstanding that their Hearts, as they sufficiently demonstrate by their Actions, burn with the same Fury, and it may be with the same Religion of those ancient Northern People that so often took and sack'd the ancient *Rome*.

The same Alarum *Poland* seriously ought to take; for that if she unwarily undertake to favour the Designs of his most Christian Majesty, the Enemy of his Imperial Majesty and the Empire, it behoves her to take heed, that she do not engage her self to favour the Destru-

ction

ction of the only Bulwark of her Safety, against all the formidable Attacks of the *Turk*; which it behoves *Poland* to take the more seriously into her Consideration, in regard that it is the Interest of the Empire to take care of the Preservation and Subsistence of *Poland*.

It is this Alarum that lastly advertises all *France*, with a continued and mournful sound, I speak of the Kingdom in her three Estates, that if fourscore and ten thousand Gentlemen which are in *France* do not under the Favour of this present Conjunction draw their Swords, and joyn with the honest Commonalty, to shake off the Yoak which now oppresses their Necks, the name of Nobility and free people, will be certainly extinguisht over all that vast and populous Kingdom; in regard, that nothing but the frequent Meeting of the three Estates General of that Kingdom, which is able

able to re-establish the Priviledges of those Estates, totally lost : which re-Establishment being never to be brought to pass, but by a universal taking up of Arms throughout the whole Kingdom, it may be certainly said, that such a Resolution being taken at this Conjunction, by joyning with those Princes, who are now engag'd in the same War against the Court of France, and that also vigorously maintain'd till such a Re-Establishment were made according to their desire, firm, and lasting ; there would be no Power upon the Earth which could ward off the Blow, but that his most Christian Majesty would be forc'd to vail Bonnet, and submit to reason and Equity, as well in respect of his Subjects, as in respect of his Neighbours, which is so much the more necessary ; by how much it ought to be laid down for a fundamental Maxim, that if by re-establishment
of

of the Liberties of *France*, which is not to be done but by the sitting of the general Estates of the Kingdom. The Monarch of that Nation cannot be constrain'd to content himself with the ancient Revenues of that Crown; it is absolutely impossible, that any one of his Neighbours can promise to themselves either Peace or Security, which being so considerable and certain as I lay it down, I leave it to Judgment, how much it concerns all the oppres'd Nobility of *France*, not to lay down Arms, till that despotic and Arbitrary Power by some means or other, be absolutely banish'd the Kingdom.

But if the People of this great and vast Kingdom, will be so generous, as to attempt the shaking off a Yoak so heavy and oppressive; the same Alarum admonishes his Imperial Majesty, and his Catholick Majesty, together with their Allies,

lies, that these Worthy and Generous Undertakers ought to be succour'd and protected after another manner than those of *Bourdeaux*, the *Britains* and *Lavedanois* were in their late Insurrections; a fatal Experience, giving Light to this most Renowned House of *Austria*, and it's Allies, that if those Insurrections had been foster'd and succour'd, according to the powerful Sollicitations of their Deputies abroad, his most Christian Majesty had not been in a condition to have made those notable Conquests which he has done these last Campaigns in the *Spanish Netherlands*, nor to furnish the *Swede* and others with such considerable Sums of Money, from whence those Consequences are to be drawn that speak loud enough of themselves to justify the solidity of my Assertion in this particular.

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But

But if the Renowned House of *Austria*, with all their Allies and Confederates, who are now in Arms against *France*, have any Interest so Supreme and importunate as I suppose they have, not to lay down Arms, till this Despotick Power be banished out of *France*: How much does it concern *England* to suppress that formidable Power so threatening to them ? I am satisfied, that only the Insinuations and Profuseness of the Court of *France* for these many years, have began a Self-interested and Popishly affected Party in that Nation, which laid the Foundations of all the Catastrophees that have appear'd upon the *English* Theatre, and which no doubt, the same Parties are endeavouring with the same Vigour to renew, if not prevented by a generous Confederacy of the *English* Nation against the Common Enemy, there being no other way to stop the Current of his most Christian

stian Majesties Profusions abroad, by that means, according to the natural Description which he exposes to the World of his Absolute Power over his Subjects, to inflame the Minds of other Princes with the same Ambition. And there are two Points so essential to the Interest of *England*, besides those that I have already related, that though the Renowued House of *Austria*, with their Allies, were utterly unable either to foment or to protect an Enterprize of this Importance, *England* alone however ought to undertake such an Heroick Work, the Success whereof is so link'd to its Interest, that, if I had not resolv'd here to conclude, I could make it out by many more undeniable Reasons, that *England* cannot support it self but by the re-establishment of the *French* Liberty. Upon this Pole moves the whole Being of the Laws and Liberties of *England*, as well as the

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Universal Calm and Tranquility of Europe, and the Repose of Christendom. And because, perhaps, I may be thought by some to have spoken too much in the display of so much Truth, I shall say no more, leaving to every one his full Liberty to think and act according as his parts, his Honour, and his Conscience shall suggest; and so I conclude.

F I N I S.



